

A FEW THOUGHTS ABOUT BEING A PHYSICIAN

Maintain your enthusiasm for the wonderful career you have chosen.

Remember always that you are the professional. Maintain your control and your dignity.

Patients who don't feel well don't behave well. Neither do their families. As a professional, it is your job to maintain your composure.

Medicine is a noble profession. You are a representative of the best that it has to offer.

Be compassionate, patient, and understanding.

Be a good listener. Even if you are hassled beyond belief, a patient should feel the intensity of your undivided attention and should sense that you have absolutely nothing else to do but to hear his or her story.

You have been blessed with exceptional ability. Use it but don't flaunt it. Respect those around you, whatever their talent might be.

And, above all, be kind, not only to your patients and their families, but to your colleague physicians and nurses, to those around you who are part of the health care team, and to those who toil as part of the support for what you do.

Finally, you are the stuff and substance of this extraordinary school and hospital. What you are, it will be.

Good luck to all of you.

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